

Report of the DCMI Localization And Internationalization Community Meeting, 28 August 2007, held at the Malacca Room, Hotel Intercontinental, Singapore

Moderators: Karen Rollitt and Shigeo Sugimoto

Session 1: Presentations

Karen Rollitt and Shigeo Sugimoto gave a general introduction about the activities of this Community and all members attending introduced themselves. Presentations included:

- 1) Patricia Liebetrau - The DISA (Digital Imaging Project) in South Africa <http://www.disa.ukzn.ac.za> has for the past 8 years been digitising cultural heritage resources. Patricia told the group about the work toward developing up an application profile for music collections in an African context. The music collections form part of a larger project called, "*Southern African Freedom Struggles, 1950-1954*" which is digitising materials for scholarly research. Music is significant during the period, and much material is fragmented. The aim is to capture knowledge, and maintain and preserve it, using open standards, open access and open data. Guidelines are being created for the metadata creation and an application profile is being created with DC as its base. Patricia told the group about the challenges and considerations faced in developing the Application profile, and also for creating metadata guidelines for metadata creators.
- 2) Liddy Neville raised an issue about whether this Group would consider internationalization issues beyond translations of Dublin Core terms. English is close to being an international language. Those with domain expertise may not have English expertise. To understand concepts and ideas they need to be expressed clearly in English for non-English readers (and others e.g. dyslexics). We state the level of the audience a resource is intended for but not the complexity of the language of a resource. The idea is that through metadata a resource could indicate its complexity for translation.
- 3) Karen Rollitt presented an overview of those metadata projects and developments at the National Library of New Zealand, which support the goals of the DCMI Localization and Internationalization Community. Topics included, the development of the New Zealand version of the DCMI Registry; a description of the Māori Subject Headings and Iwi/Hapu names thesauri; the OCLC-National Library Partnering Agreement supporting multiple language use; Matapihi a cross domain initiative of the digital collections held by a number of New Zealand cultural organisations; and the digitisations of the Māori magazine, Te Ao Hou.

- 4) Christine Frodl and Stefanie Ruehle gave a presentation about the project to translate DCMES 1.1 into the German language. This forms part of a larger project at KIM, Competence Centre for Interoperable Metadata to develop an information platform for metadata users and metadata developers. Christine and Stefanie told us of the principles adhered to and that underlay the German translation; the linguistic issues dealt with in translating metadata terms to German from English; who was involved in the project (including making available a Weblog for comments) and future plans. See: <http://www.kim-forum.org/material/index.htm>

Session 2: Discussion

There were two items on the Agenda for this Session. Due to time constraints the first item only was discussed.

Akira Miyazawa referred to his presentation at day 1 of DC2007, *Writing systems and their representation in metadata in light of the DCMI Abstract Model* - <http://www.dcmipubs.org/ojs/index.php/pubs/issue/view/8/showToc>
Akira's question is, whereabouts should the writing system of a resource be identified - in a language-tag or as a separate property - if as a language tag is RFC 4646 adequate. Akira's proposal is that the current RFC4646 does not satisfy requirements for recording writing systems and that there is a need to list these and register them. The discussion amongst the Group acknowledged the need to register writing system as a list somewhere and gain input from users. The Group agreed that a proposal be raised at the Advisory Board Meeting on Saturday.

The second item for discussion was DCMES translations, their accuracy and authorisations and the DCMI website's reference to translations. Karen Rollitt committed to further work on documenting the issues. A suggestion is to launch a task group to write the translation guidelines. This will be shared with the Group with a view to providing guidelines for those undertaking the translations of DCMES.